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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



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Prestigious Gay Men's Chorus to perform at NAMI Walk on April 19

SAN DIEGO – This year walkers will be serenaded by the Gay Men's Chorus at the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Walk in Balboa Park.

Approximately 30 professional performers will be singing as entertainment and encouragement to the hundreds of walkers that will be hitting the streets. "We are excited to have these wonderful voices as part of our walk event," said Shannon Jaccard, San Diego County NAMI Walk Manager. "Their performance will make the day all that more meaningful and memorable."

Guitarist/singer Don Lee will be the opening act at the walk. He will provide 20 minutes of country and classic rock on electric guitar beginning at 9:30 am. The chorus will sing at 10:00 am and will be performing songs from their spring concert to be held Saturday, April 12, at 8:00 pm and Sunday, April 13, at 2:00 pm. at the David & Dorothea Garfield Theatre Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center 4126 Executive Drive La Jolla. The concert features famous and fun songs from the 50's.

The San Diego County NAMI 5K Walk/Run helps raise money and awareness about our city's and country's need for a world-class treatment and recovery system for people with mental illness. This year's walk will also feature a health/resource fair, kids' activities and food vendors for a relaxing and informative time after the walk. In addition, Channel 10's Geni Cavitt will be the Honorary Chair of the walk. Geni does the weather and other special reports on KGTV and is known throughout the city as the one who presents the prestigious Channel 10 Leadership Award.

There is still time to sign up for the walk and form or join a walk team! For more information go to www.namiwalksandiego.org or call NAMI San Diego at (619) 584-5564.

To put it in perspective, more than 244,000 people are living with mental illness in San Diego alone. In the state of California, 600,000 children, adults and elderly are in need of mental health services that aren't readily available. In our nation, one in five people will suffer from a serious mental illness in their lifetime.

NAMI is a non-profit organization that provides education, support services and advocacy to improve the lives of everyone affected by mental illnesses.

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